

Message Text

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42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 091412Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4221

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T PRETORIA 1654

EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: CONVERSATION WITH HAGAN

1. HAGAN CALLED EMBASSY APRIL 9 TO STATE MIN INTERNAL AFFAIRS MUSSETT NOW IN JOHANNESBURG AND TO PROPOSE QUIET MEETING AT HIS OFFICE AT CARLTON CENTER JOHANNESBURG ON APRIL 10. OIC DEMURRED STATING HE HAD NO AUTHORIZATION TO MEET MUSSETT BUT NOTED OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN RHODESIAN DEVELOPMENTS. MUSSETT REMAINS IN JOHANNESBURG UNTIL APRIL 13 AND THEN GOES TO HIS SON'S HOUSE NEAR PORT ELIZABETH FOR TEN DAYS. MUSSETT ASSUMES, HAGAN SAID, THAT HE WILL BE THOROUGHLY COVERED DURING VISIT BY SAG SECURITY.

2. HAGAN AGAIN SET FORTH VIEWS ON URGENCY RHODESIAN SITUATION ESPECIALLY BECAUSE AS INCIDENTS MOUNTED RHODESIANS WOULD BE GRIPPED BY WAR PSYCHOSIS THUS MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO FOLLOW NEGOTIATION ROUTE AND ELIMINATING ANY POSSIBILITY OF SUPERSEDING IAN SMITH AS LEADER OF NEGOTIATIONS. HAGAN CITED SABOTAGE OF RHODESIAN RAILWAY LINK WITH SA AS ONE EXAMPLE OF STEP TOWARD DETERIORATION. HE ALSO SAID RHODESIAN FORCES COULD HOLD OUT EASILY FOR SIX MONTHS AFTER WHICH SITUATION WOULD WORSEN RAPIDLY.

3. HAGAN REITERATED THAT MUSSETT AND DAVID SMITH RECOGNIZE MAXIMUM TRANSITIONAL PERIOD OF 24 MONTHS TO MAJORITY RULE AND

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THAT THERE WOULD BE NO ATTEMPT TO DRAG OUT NEGOTIATIONS PAST

THIS TIME.
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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